GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3248
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2004
CLOSURE OF PDIL
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government closed the Research & Development (R&D) wing and Engineering & Consultancy Division of Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the cost of closure;

(c) whether these research institutes had many achievements to its credit in the fertilizer technology in the country;

(d) whether there is any report of any committee suggesting the closure of these institutions; and

(e) if so, the facts in details?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to(c) Government has taken a decision to close down R&D Division and the Sindri Unit of the E&C Division of the Projects and Development India Ltd. due to their non-viability. The total cost of closure of both these Divisions was Rs. 181.28 crore as on 31.3.2004.

(d) & (e) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) while sanctioning rehabilitation packages of PDIL on 1.7.1997 and 28.3.2004 had observed that the R&D Division of PDIL was unviable on stand-alone basis and had proposed closure of the E&C Division at Sindri due to its uneconomic operations. Even the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research(CSIR) and Fertilizer Association of India(FAI) have expressed their inability to take over the R&D Division.